

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, BE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - NEW PAN AM SCHEDULE

REF: BRUSSELS 2113

1. BELGIAN ASSERTION THAT MOSCOW AND WARSAW SERVICE FROM BRUSSELS "SPECIFICALLY" EXCLUDED FROM EXISTING AGREEMENT CONTRADICTS BELGIAN ARGUMENT, BOTH ORALLY AND IN WRITING, IN NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT SECOND GATEWAY IN US, THAT USG ENJOYS UNLIMITED RIGHTS BEYOND BELGIUM. WHILE ARGUMENT WAS ADVANCED IN ATTEMPT PERSUADE US TO GRANT ADDITIONAL POINT FOR SABENA, BELGIANS ARE NONETHELESS ON RECORD TO THIS EFFECT.

2. ISSUE OF BEYOND RIGHTS WAS TREATED EXTENSIVELY IN US-BELGIAN CIVAIR TALKS IN WASHINGTON IN APRIL 1969. AT THOSE TALKS BELGIAN DELEGATION OFFICIALLY TABLED DOCUMENT, DATED APRIL 21, 1969, ENTITLED "SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF EXTENSION OF BELGIUM'S AIR TRAFFIC RIGHTS TO A SECOND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POINT IN THE CONTERMIOUS UNITED STATES". THIS DOCUMENT STATES, IN PART (PAGES 5 AND 6):

QUOTE:

IT IS IN VIEWING THE SO- CALLED " BEYOND" RIGHTS AFFORDED THE U. S. AIR CARRIERS THAT EVEN GREATER APPRECIATION CAN BE GIVEN TO THE EXTENSIVE SCOPE OF THE ROUTE GRANTS. THE " BEYOND" RIGHTS GIVEN TO US AIR CARRIERS ACTUALLY PERMIT THEM TO COMBINE THE TRAFFIC SUPPORT OF BELGIUM WITH A MULTITUDE OF POINTS IN EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST, AND ASIA, AS A PART OF THE DIRECT TRANSATLANTIC SERVICES BEING PROVIDED, IN ADDITION TO THE FIFTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC WHICH THE U. S. CARRIERS CAN ALSO PARTICIPATE IN BETWEEN BRUSSELS AND VARIED BEYOND POINTS.

AMONG THE EXTENSIVE COMBINATIONS OF FIFTH FREEDOM ROUTES ALL WITHIN THE BILATERAL GRANTED BY BELGIUM TO US AIR CARRIERS ARE THE FOLLOWING:

ROUTE 2 A: FROM POINTS IN THE U. S. A. VIA BRUSSELS

- (A) BRUSSELS- AMSTERDAM AND BEYOND.
- (0) BRUSSELS- COPENHAGEN AND BEYOND.
- (C) BRUSSELS- OSLO AND BEYOND.
- (D) BRUSSELS- STOCKHOLM AND BEYOND.
- (E) BRUSSELS- HELSINKI AND BEYOND.
- (F) BRUSSELS- HAMBURG AND BEYOND TO POINTS IN EUROPE NORTH AND EAST OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. UNQUOTE.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY, IN A MEMORANDUM OF APRIL 24, 1969 TO THE U. S. DELEGATION THE BELGIAN DELEGATION STATED THAT QUOTE AS REGARDS THE MATTER OF BEYOND RIGHTS, IN THE VIEW OF THE (BELGIAN) DELEGATION THERE ARE AVAILABLE TO U. S. CARRIERS NUMEROUS ADVANTAGES IN THE AVAILABILITY OF VARIED COMBINATIONS OF ROUTES BEYOND BRUSSELS IN ALL DIRECTIONS AND AROUND THE WORLD. THIS AVAILABILITY NOT ONLY ENABLES THE U. S. CARRIER EFFECTIVELY TO PARTICIPATE IN MULTIPLE SERVICES BEYOND BRUSSELS AS ILLUSTRATED IN THE SUBMISSION (CITED ABOVE), BUT, IMPORTANTLY, ENABLES U. S. CARRIERS TO COMBINE SERVICES IN AN ECONOMIC WAY THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE. UNQUOTE.

4. IN NEGOTIATIONS IN 1969, 1970 AND 1972, BELGIANS AS-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SERTEED REPEATEDLY THAT THEY WERE UNABLE OFFER U. S. ADDITIONAL AVIATION RIGHTS TO USG IN EXCHANGE FOR SECOND POINT IN U. S. SINCE BELGIUM HAD IN EXCESS OF ZEAL STEMMING FROM LIBERATION IN 1944-45 GRANTED TO USG WHAT AMOUNTS TO CARTE BLANCHE IN COMMERCIAL AVIATION FIELD. MOREOVER, IN ATTEMPTING COUNTER US ARGUMENT THAT BALANCE OF BENEFITS FAVORS SABENA, BELGIANS HAVE REPEATED-

LY ALLEGED THAT IMBALANCE FLOWS NOT FROM LACK OF OPPORTUNITIES BUT FROM PAN AM FAILURE EXPLOIT BRUSSELS OPPORTUNITIES ALREADY AVAILABLE, AND URGED THAT PAN AM EXPLOIT OPPORTUNITIES MORE FULLY. (SEE MINUTES OF 1972 TALKS FOR MOST RECENT EXAMPLE.) GOB THUS APPEARS TO BE OBSTRUCTING COURSE OF ACTION THEY HAVE THEMSELVES PROPOSED.

5. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT BELGIANS HAVE IN PAST CLEARLY RECOGNIZED THAT INCLUDED IN OUR RIGHTS

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TO FLY BEYOND BRUSSELS IS THE RIGHT TO FLY ON TO WARSAW AND MOSCOW. THEREFORE EMBASSY REQUESTED TO DISCUSS FOREGOING WITH BELGIANS, URGING THAT GOB APPROVE PAN AM SCHEDULE. WE ARE PREPARED TO PUT FOREGOING IN WRITING IF BELGIANS ARE INTENT UPON PRESENTING THEIR VIEWS IN A NOTE.

6. FYI: IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER GOB IS DRAGGING FEET ON PAN AM SCHEDULE IN HOPE OF EXTRACTING FROM USG LANDING RIGHTS AT CHICAGO OR ATLANTA, OR AS MATTER OF PIQUE OVER DENIAL BY US OF SUCH ADDITIONAL RIGHTS. IF GOB DISAPPROVES CERTAIN PARTS PANAM SCHEDULE, THERE WILL BE PRESSURE FOR CAB TAKE RETALIATORY ACTION BY DISAPPROVING SABENA' S SCHEDULES. FROM PANAM' S VIEWPOINT, IT WOULD JUST AS SOON SEE SABENA' S TRANSATLANTIC SERVICE CUT BACK AS ITSELF FLY BEYOND BRUSSELS. THUS, BELGIANS COULD CREATE SITUATION IN WHICH THEY HAVE NOTHING TO GAIN, BUT MAY HAVE GREAT DEAL TO LOSE. END FYI. ROGERS

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